

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 01272 281820Z

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ACTION AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9246

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AFDROUGHT

SUBJECT: SAHEL CEREALS REQUIREMENTS; MULTI DONOR MISSION
UPDATED

1. SUMMARY: RESULTS OF FURTHER REFINEMENTS IN OSRO OF
IMPLICATIONS OF MDM REPORT, LEAVING REQUIREMENTS ESTIMATES
BY COUNTRY UNCHANGED, INDICATE A NEED FOR 121,263 TONS IN
ADDITION TO KNOWN PIPELINE AND IMPORTED STOCKS
IN PORT OR IN COUNTRY AT FIRST NOVEMBER.

AGAINST THIS, COMMITMENTS CONSIDERED FIRM ARE 64,000 LEAVING
BALANCE 57,263. STATED COUNTRY REQUIREMENTS FIGURES ARE OF
COURSE SUBJECT TO VARYING VIEWS. ABOVE FIGURES DO NOT
INCLUDE THE SUGGESTED 50,000 TONS REGIONAL RESERVE NOR THE
SUGGESTED 58,000 TONS CONCESSIONAL IMPORTS FOR MALI.

2. IT APPEARS THAT MOST OF THE UNCERTAINTIES RE SUPPLY
SITUATION HAVE BEEN REMOVED IN OSRO CONTINUED DETAILED
EXAMINATION AND DISCOURSE WITH CONTRIBUTING GOVERNMENTS.
THUS BIGGEST UNCERTAINTY WHICH REMAINS IS DEGREE OF VALIDITY,
COUNTRY BY COUNTRY, OF RECOMMENDATIONS REFLECTED IN MDM
REPORT. SOME (SENEGAL) APPEAR TO BE NOT PARTICULARLY WELL
BASED OR DOCUMENTED; OTHERS (MALI) SUBJECT TO WIDE VARIANCE
IN INTERPRETATION OF REAL NEED. QUITE UNOFFICIALLY THE
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PAGE 02 ROME 01272 281820Z

MAIN CONCERNS HERE AT THIS JUNCTURE ARE MALI'S SIXTH REGION,

AS CONTRASTED WITH COUNTRY TOTAL, AND A NUMBER OF UNCERTAINTIES WITH RESPECT TO MAURITANIA. VERY LITTLE IS KNOWN HERE ABOUT PROGRESS OF PREPOSITIONING IN MALI. "ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED" FOR MAURITANIA IS 12,600 TONS BUT THIS COULD BE AFFECTED BY CONDITION OF STOCKS IN COUNTRY AND FEBRUARY/MARCH FLOOD RECESSION CROPS. OFFICIALLY, OF COURSE, OSRO IS STAYING WITH THE MDM STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SECURITY STOCKS. ASSUME AID/W WILL WANT TO CONSULT FIELD MISSIONS BEFORE DECIDING ON ANY ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS.

3. ON A TOTAL BASIS THE REFINED FIGURES INDICATE STOCKS AND FIRM ALLOCATED COMMITMENTS TO ACCOUNT FOR ALL BUT 121,263 TONS. THE EEC AND FRANCE HAVE ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCED BUT UNALLOCATED COMMITMENTS OF 51,000 AND 13,000 TONS RESPECTIVELY, TOTAL 64,000. THUS 57,263 IS "UNCOVERED" ALTHOUGH SOME DONORS (CANADA) HAVE INDICATED INTENTIONS OF MAKING ADDITIONAL GRANTS. A REVISED DETAILED SHIPPING PLAN SENT WASHINGTON JANUARY 28, ALONG WITH (TO KELLY) DABELL LETTER SAME DATE, INCLUDES SUGGESTED SCHEDULING BY PORTS FOR ENTIRE 121,000 TONS, LEAVING IT TO DONORS, AS DID BOERMA JANUARY 24 LETTER, TO COME FORWARD WITH SUPPLIES TO FIT THE PLAN. THE UNCOVERED ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED QUANTITIES ARE ZERO FOR CHAD AND UPPER VOLTA, 80 TONS GAMBIA, 12,628 MAURITANIA, 30,370 SENEGAL, 53,134 MALI, 25,051 NIGER. VOLPE

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